

## ABSTRACT

A recording/reproduction apparatus is capable of effectively and efficiently making use of a large-quantity information signal recorded onto a recording medium and efficiently utilizing the recording medium for recording the information signal. In a process to record a video signal onto the recording medium 8, a video classification process unit 5 employed in the recording/reproduction apparatus recognizes similar pictures of the video signal, classifies pictures of the signal into similar-picture segments each including similar pictures and classifies the similar-picture segments into groups each including similar-picture segments resembling each other. Then, the recording/reproduction apparatus displays a picture as a thumbnail picture for each of the similar-picture segments on a classification display unit 19. By viewing a tabular display of such thumbnail pictures, contents of the video signal recorded on the recording medium 8 can be grasped effectively and with a high degree of efficiency.

10/501840

(19) 世界知的所有権機関  
国際事務局(43) 国際公開日  
2003 年 8 月 7 日 (07.08.2003)

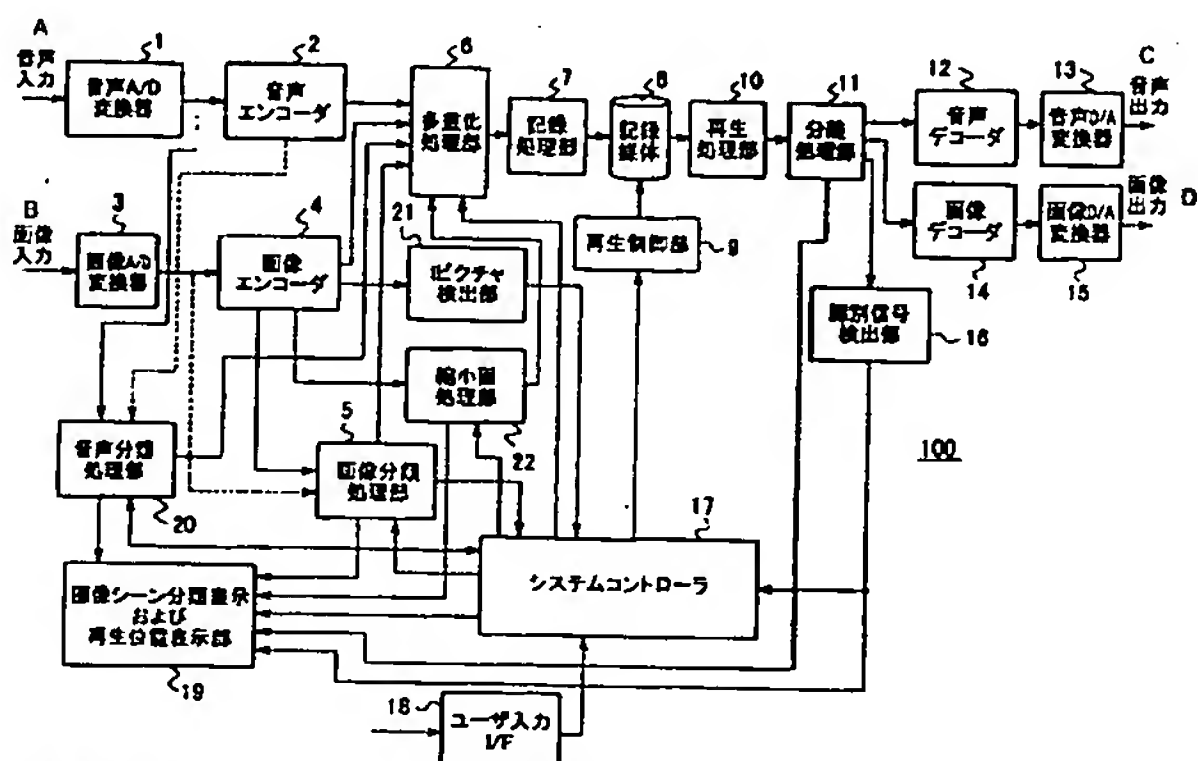
PCT

(10) 国際公開番号  
WO 03/065711 A1

- (51) 国際特許分類: H04N 5/76, 5/91, G11B 20/10, 20/12, 27/00 (MURABAYASHI, Noboru) [JP/JP]; 〒141-0001 東京都品川区北品川6丁目7番35号 ソニー株式会社内 Tokyo (JP). 岡本 裕成 (OKAMOTO, Hiroshige) [JP/JP]; 〒141-0001 東京都品川区北品川6丁目7番35号 ソニー株式会社内 Tokyo (JP).
- (21) 国際出願番号: PCT/JP03/00204
- (22) 国際出願日: 2003 年 1 月 14 日 (14.01.2003)
- (25) 国際出願の言語: 日本語 (74) 代理人: 中村 友之 (NAKAMURA, Tomoyuki); 〒105-0001 東京都港区虎ノ門1丁目2番3号 虎ノ門第一ビル9階 三好内外国特許事務所内 Tokyo (JP).
- (26) 国際公開の言語: 日本語
- (30) 優先権データ: 特願2002-009777 2002 年 1 月 18 日 (18.01.2002) JP (81) 指定国 (国内): CN, KR, US.
- (71) 出願人 (米国を除く全ての指定国について): ソニー株式会社 (SONY CORPORATION) [JP/JP]; 〒141-0001 東京都品川区北品川6丁目7番35号 Tokyo (JP). 添付公開書類:  
— 国際調査報告書
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- 2 文字コード及び他の略語については、定期発行される各 PCT ガゼットの巻頭に掲載されている「コードと略語のガイダンスノート」を参照。

(54) Title: INFORMATION SIGNAL PROCESSING APPARATUS AND INFORMATION SIGNAL PROCESSING METHOD

(54) 発明の名称: 情報信号処理装置および情報信号処理方法



- A...AUDIO INPUT  
1...AUDIO A/D CONVERTER  
2...AUDIO ENCODER  
6...MULTIPLEXING UNIT  
7...RECORDING UNIT  
8...RECORDING MEDIUM  
10...REPRODUCTION UNIT  
11...ISOLATION UNIT  
12...AUDIO DECODER  
13...AUDIO D/A CONVERTER  
C...AUDIO OUTPUT  
9...REPRODUCTION CONTROLLER  
14...IMAGE DECODER  
15...IMAGE D/A CONVERTER  
D...VIDEO OUTPUT  
B...VIDEO INPUT  
3...VIDEO A/D CONVERTER  
4...VIDEO ENCODER  
21...PICTURE DETECTOR  
18...IDENTIFICATION SIGNAL DETECTOR  
22...SCALING DOWN PROCESSOR  
20...AUDIO CLASSIFICATION UNIT  
5...VIDEO CLASSIFICATION UNIT  
19...IMAGE SCENE CLASSIFICATION DISPLAY AND REPRODUCTION POSITION DISPLAY UNIT  
17...SYSTEM CONTROLLER  
18...USER INPUT I/F

(57) Abstract: An information signal processing apparatus capable of effectively and efficiently using a plenty of information signals recorded on a large-capacity recording medium and realizing an effective use of the recording medium containing the information signals. When an image signal is recorded onto a recording medium (8), an image classification unit (5) makes judgment on similar images of the image signal and the similar images are classified into groups. One of the images of each group of a similar image interval is displayed as a thumbnail on a classification display unit (19), thereby enabling a user to effectively and efficiently grasp the content of image signal recorded on the recording medium (8) through the thumbnail list display.

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